GEOSPATIAL WORKSHOPS FOR VIRGINIA’S EDUCATORS & LOCAL/STATE EMPLOYEES

These workshops increase the knowledge base and hands-on skills for participants. Participants were from Virginia’s K-12 and community college teaching cadre, as well as from local, regional, state, and federal government entities. With respect to the educational community, ultimately an end product will include increases in the geospatial literacy of students in participant’s classes.

By offering such experiences over the years, our programs build the number and caliber of instructors throughout Virginia, and contribute to meeting future geospatial needs of Virginia’s industries. By providing workforce development opportunities to local, regional, and state employees, we are working to enhance efficiency and support better decision making through an enhanced understanding of issues impacting our communities.

VirginiaView’s workshops for K-12 and community college instructors enhance educational capabilities by introducing teachers and students to STEM materials through hands-on learning in and outside the classroom.

For this reporting period, VirginiaView conducted, and co-sponsored three hands-on workshops:

- **Title: Introduction to Geospatial Technologies**
  - Sept. 15, 2014, Richmond, VA
  - Location: Geospatial pre-conference workshops at the 2014 VA GIS Conference
  - Audience: Approx. 150 educators & government employees

- **Title: Introduction to Geospatial Technologies**
  - June 22 – 24, 2015
  - Location: Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA
  - Audience: 14 K-12 & community college faculty

- **Title: Getting to Know Remote Sensing Using ArcGIS Desktop**
  - June 25 – 26, 2015
  - Location: J Sergeant Reynolds Community College, Richmond, VA
  - Audience: 24 educators, government, and private sector employees.

VirginiaView is a member of the AmericaView Consortium, a nationally coordinated network of academic, agency, non-profit, and industry partners and cooperators that share the vision of promoting and supporting the use of remote sensing data and technology within each state.
BENEFITS TO VIRGINIA

As a focal point for our nation’s geospatial industries, VirginiaView has been actively developing a geospatially literate workforce. VirginiaView contributes to this workforce development effort by providing educational materials, and by sponsoring, co-sponsoring, and delivering hands-on workshops to:

- K-12 educators,
- Community college educators,
- Private sector employees,
- Local government staff, and
- State government employees.

VirginiaView’s website (http://virginiaview.cnre.vt.edu/) provides on-line teaching resources suitable to support instruction and learning for all of these groups.

Attendees at VirginiaView’s June 2015 workshop held at J. Sergeant Reynolds Community College, near Richmond. Instructors assist participants in use of specialized software necessary to acquire and analyze Landsat imagery distributed by the US Geological Survey’s EROS Center.

VIRGINIAVIEW CONSORTIUM MEMBERSHIP

VirginiaView partners develop, leverage, and disseminate remote sensing resources and applications to stakeholders across the Commonwealth. Partners also collaborate with the development of proposals and research efforts to maintain a statewide reach. Through its affiliation with other AmericaView consortium members, other partners, and affiliates, including the National Geospatial Technology Extension Network (NGTEN), and the Geospatial Technology Education (GeoTEd) project, VirginiaView has also developed the capacity to efficiently extend resources and programming efforts nationally.

Federal consortium members identified above do not receive funding from AmericaView.